

**Senate File 2188 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2188  
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN  
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3080)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the renewal period for foster care  
2 licensing.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 237.5, subsection 1, Code 2011, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. An individual or an agency shall apply for a license  
4 by completing an application to the administrator upon forms  
5 furnished by the administrator. The administrator shall issue  
6 or reissue a license if the administrator determines that the  
7 applicant or licensee is or upon commencing operation will  
8 provide child foster care in compliance with this chapter. A  
9 An initial license for an individual is valid for one year from  
10 the date of issuance. After the first two years of licensure,  
11 a license for an individual is valid for two years from the  
12 most recent date of issuance except that the administrator,  
13 within the administrator's discretion and based upon the  
14 performance of the licensee, may require annual renewal of  
15 the license or may issue a provisional license pursuant to  
16 subsection 3. A license for an agency is valid for up to three  
17 years from the date of issuance for the period determined by  
18 the administrator in accordance with administrative rules  
19 providing criteria for making the determination. The license  
20 shall state on its face the name of the licensee, the type of  
21 facility, the particular premises for which the license is  
22 issued, and the number of children who may be cared for by  
23 the facility on the premises at one time. The license shall  
24 be posted in a conspicuous place in the physical plant of the  
25 facility, except that if the facility is in a single-family  
26 home the license may be kept where it is readily available for  
27 examination upon request.

28 Sec. 2. Section 237.5A, Code 2011, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 **237.5A Foster parent training.**

31 1. As a condition for initial licensure, each individual  
32 licensee shall complete thirty hours of foster parent  
33 training offered or approved by the department. However,  
34 if the licensee has completed relevant training or has a  
35 combination of completed relevant training and experience,

1 and the department deems such training or combination to be  
 2 an acceptable equivalent to all or a portion of the initial  
 3 licensure training requirement, or based upon the circumstances  
 4 of the child and the licensee the department finds there is  
 5 other good cause, the department may waive all or a portion  
 6 of the training requirement. Prior to ~~annual~~ renewal of  
 7 licensure, each individual licensee shall also annually  
 8 complete six hours of foster parent training. The training  
 9 shall include but is not limited to physical care, education,  
 10 learning disabilities, referral to and receipt of necessary  
 11 professional services, behavioral assessment and modification,  
 12 self-assessment, self-living skills, and biological parent  
 13 contact. An individual licensee may complete the training as  
 14 part of an approved training program offered by a public or  
 15 private agency with expertise in the provision of child foster  
 16 care or in related subject areas. The department shall adopt  
 17 rules to implement and enforce this training requirement.

18 2. A licensee who is unable to complete six hours of foster  
 19 parent training annually prior to ~~annual~~ licensure renewal  
 20 because the licensee is engaged in active duty in the military  
 21 service shall be considered to be in compliance with the  
 22 training requirement for ~~annual~~ licensure renewal.

23 Sec. 3. RULES. The department of human services shall adopt  
 24 rules to implement the provisions of this Act.

25 EXPLANATION

26 This bill relates to the renewal period for foster care  
 27 licensing. The bill amends Code section 237.5 to increase  
 28 the time period a foster care license for an individual is  
 29 valid from one year to two years after the individual has been  
 30 licensed for an initial two-year period. However, the bill  
 31 provides that an administrator of the department of human  
 32 services, as defined by Code chapter 237, may require annual  
 33 renewal of the individual license or may issue a provisional  
 34 license even after the initial two-year period of licensure  
 35 within the administrator's discretion based upon performance of

1 the licensee. The bill provides that an individual licensee  
2 shall complete six hours of foster parent training prior to  
3 licensure renewal rather than completing six hours of training  
4 prior to the annual licensure renewal.

5 The bill requires the department of human services to adopt  
6 rules to implement the Act.